Birmingham COMEDY Festival

2-11 Oct 2020

Charlie Chaplin

The Nightingales

Foka Wolf

Mrs Barbara Nice

Toyah, Clinton Baptiste

Board Game Smackdown

Laura Lexx, Carl Donnelly

Objectivity, Daz Hale

Maureen Younger

Dan Whitehouse

Josh Pugh

Craig Deeley

Linda Hargreaves

Harvey Hawkins

Jumprov

Pick Your Escapade

... and more

Birmingham COMEDY Festival 2-11 Oct 2020

bhamcomfest.co.uk

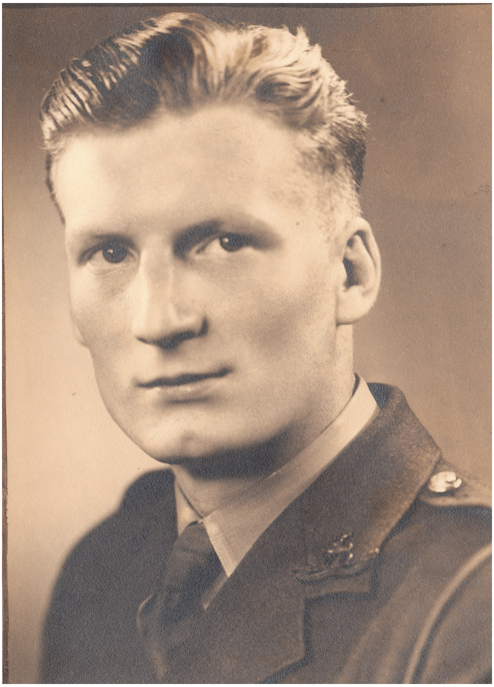
Find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram & YouTube @bhamcomfest

Welcome ...

We began 2020 on such a high - winning two **What's On Readers' Awards** for **Best Festival (Birmingham** and **West Midlands)**, and with an incredible line-up ready to be announced.
Then came Covid-19 ...
But keen to not let an entire year slip away, we decided to present a very different festival, featuring a series of unique interventions and excursions – taking place (mostly) online.
These include especially commissioned radio shows, podcasts, live streams, and more.
And we're also launching a range of festival merch' too - with all proceeds going to support the festival.
All online activities are FREE to watch (although donations are welcomed), with everything available on-demand post-fest'.
Thanks to everyone who worked on our 'lost' festival and those who contributed to our online event - see you all in 2021 for our 20th anniversary!

- Birmingham Comedy Festival Team

From Friday 2 October 2020



The Great Larry Stephens Mystery (Or How A Forgotten Black Country Writer Changed The Face Of British Comedy Forever)

To coinicde with the publication of a new biography, It's All In The Mind, Birmingham Comedy Festival takes a brief look at the life and times of Black Country comedy writer Larry Stephens. Featuring an interview with author Julie Warren, and snippets from work Larry penned for both The Goons and Tony Hancock, the audio documentary asks why such an influential figure has been so overlooked ...

STREAM/ DOWNLOAD via:
bhamcomfest.podbean.com
youtube.com/bhamcomfest
Also available via iTunes and Spotify.

It's All In The Mind, The Life And Legacy Of Larry Stephens by Julie Warren is published by Unbound.

Birmingham Comedy Festival: The Sketch Show - Episode 1

A selection of cracking comedy sketches by some of our favourite West Mids-based comics.
Starring Birmingham Comedy Festival Breaking Talent Award winners Josh Pugh and Harvey Hawkins, Craig Deeley (as Trish), Linda Hargreaves (as Shyrell Torks), improv troupe Jumprov and Mary Flanigan (Breaking Talent Award: Commended).
WATCH NOW via: youtube.com/bhamcomfest

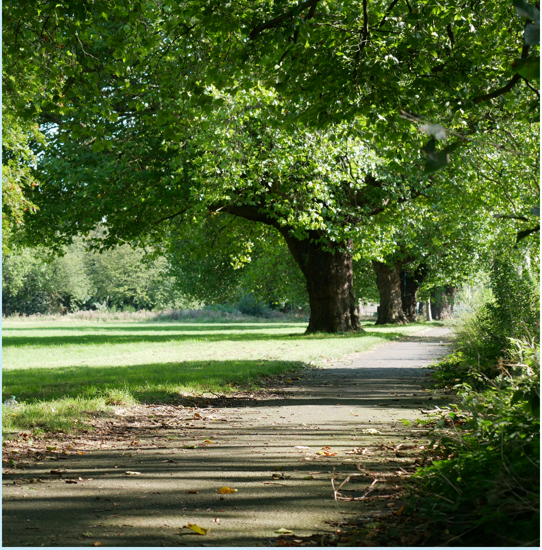
The Mrs Barbara Nice and Friends Podcast: Alex Lowe (aka Clinton Baptiste & Barry From Watford)

Join Barbara as she chats to actor and comedian Alex Lowe, the man behind the hapless clairvoyant and psychic Clinton Baptiste (Peter Kay's Phoenix Nights) and Barry From Watford (Steve Wright Show BBC Radio 2). The first of three festival specials from the always entertaining Mrs Nice.
STREAM via BrumRadio
brumradio.com
Also available via your favourite podcast hosts.

From Saturday 3 October 2020

Black Patch Park: Birthplace of Charlie Chaplin?

Was the greatest comedian/ filmmaker of the 20th century a local lad?
To tie in with the premiere of The Vagabond, we go in search of Charlie Chaplin's reported place of birth - Black Patch Park.
Just a short distance from Winson Green Prison, on the outskirts of Smethwick, it's still there today.
WATCH via youtube.com/bhamcomfest



From Monday 5 October 2020

Charlie Chaplin's The Vagabond

Featuring a new score by Dan Whitehouse

Commissioned especially for the festival, acclaimed Black Country musician Dan Whitehouse (Reveal Records) creates a unique and unexpected contemporary score for Chaplin's 1916 silent masterpiece. A turning point in Chaplin's career, The Vagabond sees the famed filmmaker begin to develop a sophisticated cinematic style that combines comedy with drama and pathos.
When a penniless busking saloon violinist (Chaplin) is run out of town, he chances upon a young woman (Edna Purviance) with a secret even she is unaware of …
WATCH via youtube.com/bhamcomfest

From Sunday 4 October 2020

Objectivity With James Sandy: Josh Pugh

Created especially for the festival, presenter James Sandy's exciting and revealing new Switch Radio series kicks off with a chat with multi-award-winning Warwickshire comedian Josh Pugh. A regular visitor to the festival, as grassroots football coach Lee Bates, Josh published his first book, Grassroots: A Step Dad's Quest For Silverware Paperback, in March 2020.

LISTEN LIVE via Switch Radio
switchradio.co.uk
Catch up on-demand via
www.mixcloud.com/switch_radio/

From Tuesday 6 October 2020

The Mrs Barbara Nice and Friends Podcast: Chris Stokes

Comedian Chris Stokes tunes back in to Barbara's wavelength to regale her with stories of Turtles in Bras, sarcastic royalty in West Bromich and Storytelling vs stand-up comedy.

STREAM via BrumRadio
brumradio.com
Also available via your favourite podcast hosts.

Objectivity With James Sandy: Maureen Younger

Comedian Maureen, host of MY Comedy (which regularly showcases the very best female comics at Brum's Kitchen Garden Cafe, in Kings Heath) selects her favourite objects.

LISTEN LIVE via Switch Radio
switchradio.co.uk
Catch up on-demand via
www.mixcloud.com/switch_radio/

From Wednesday 7 October 2020

Board Game Smackdown

Join James Cook as he invites fellow comedians Carl Donnelly (Mock The Week, Two Vegan Idiots) and Klopp Actually writer Laura Lexx to play King Of Tokyo. Also playing are Lou Atkinson and Dan Evans.

The cult Ed' Fringe show and B'ham Comedy Fest' hit moves online.

STREAM LIVE from 7pm via
boardgamesmackdown.com
Also available on-demand.

From Thursday 8 October 2020

Birmingham Comedy Festival meets ... Foka Wolf

Birmingham-based street artist, satirist and provocateur Foka Wolf has been hiding his amusing and challenging artworks in plain sight for the best part of a decade. Foka's massive posters, billboards and adverts - cheekily plastered across buildings, on public transport and windows - tackle such themes as fake news, conspiracy theories, society's greed, class divisions, politics, and the unchecked influence of big business and mega-corporations.

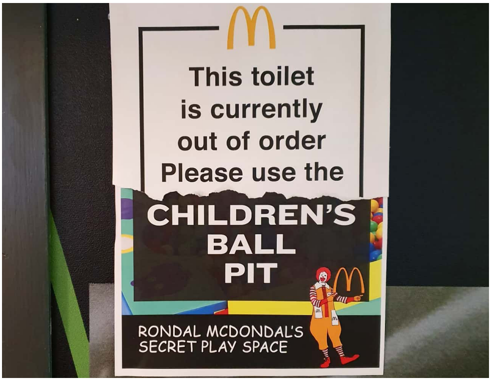
In an exclusive (and very funny) interview, we delve into how it all started, explore Foka's many influences, and find out what might be next ....

WATCH via youtube.com/bhamcomfest

LISTEN/ DOWNLOAD the audio-only version via: bhamcomfest.podbean.com

Podcast version also available via iTunes and Spotify.

With special thanks to Foka Wolf and Tat Vision.


This toilet is currently out of order Please use the
CHILDREN'S BALL PIT
RONDAL MCDONDAL'S SECRET PLAY SPACE

A Brief Introduction To... Foka Wolf

Want to know more about the artist critics call *Birmingham's Banksy*? Then check out some of Foka Wolf's greatest hits in this two minute short. **WATCH via youtube.com/bhamcomfest**

Birmingham Comedy Festival
Breaking Talent AWARD 2019

MY Comedy Chats For Birmingham Comedy Festival

Join comedian Maureen Younger as she chats to Brum comedians Lindsey Santoro, Mary Flanigan and Breaking Talent Award 2019 winner, Celya AB.

STREAM LIVE from 8.30pm

Details via maureenyounger.com

From Friday 9 October 2020

Birmingham Comedy Festival: The Sketch Show - Episode 2

A second compendium of great comedy sketches featuring Josh Pugh, Harvey Hawkins, Craig Deeley (as Trish), Linda Hargreaves (as Shyrell Torks), Jumprov and Celya AB.

WATCH NOW via:
youtube.com/bhamcomfest

From Saturday 10 October 2020

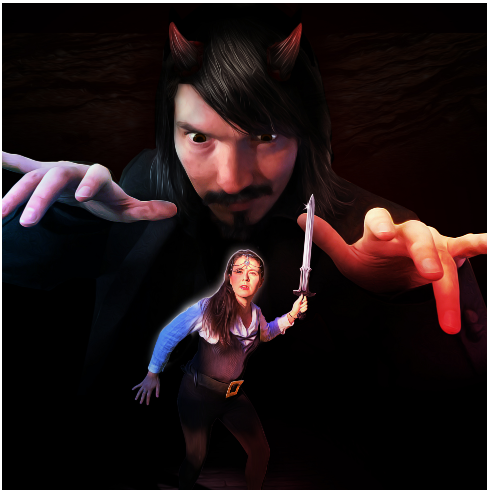
Birmingham Comedy Festival meets ... The Nightingales.

Comedian Stewart Lee loves Birmingham's The Nightingales so much, he's made a film about them. Find out more as we chat to post-punk survivor Robert Lloyd about his band, the King Rocker documentary, working with Stewart Lee, touring with The Clash, and new album Four Against Fate.

LISTEN/ DOWNLOAD via:
bhamcomfest.podbean.com
Also available via iTunes and Spotify.

For film screening dates see: kingrockerfilm.com

From Sunday 11 October 2020



Pick Your Own Escapade: Spooktacular

Join comedians Mary Flanigan and Richard Dadd for a unique Halloween-themed adventure game, where you control the story.
Warning: May contain Satan.

STREAM LIVE from 8pm via:
twitch.tv/mazflaz
Or catch-up on demand.

Objectivity With James Sandy: Daz Hale

Known for his quick wit and humour, BBCWM Breakast Show host Daz Hale concludes the series with his personal selection of objects (and music).

LISTEN LIVE via Switch Radio
switchradio.co.uk
Catch up on-demand via
www.mixcloud.com/switch_radio/

Credit (c) Dave Freak 2020

From Tuesday 13 October 2020

The Mrs Barbara Nice and Friends Podcast: Toyah

A little treat we were unable to line-up over the festival dates (*Hey! There is a global pandemic on!*).

Tune in as Barbara chats to punk icon, actress and presenter Toyah Willcox - whose remarkable career has taken her from Kings Heath to the National Theatre, massive chart hits in the 1980s (It's A Mystery, Thunder In The Mountains) and on to TV's Brum and Teletubbies.

A true Birmingham legend meets another Birmingham legend!

STREAM via BrumRadio
brumradio.com
Also available via your favourite podcast hosts.

WE'VE GOT MERCH!

Exclusive **Birmingham Comedy Festival** merchandise, including: • T-Shirts • Hoodies • Phone Covers • Tote Bags • Notebooks • Coasters • Cushions, and more.

KEEP
YOUR
DISTANCE
2metres
or
10 burgers & fries

YES
BIRMINGHAM
YES

KEEP
YOUR
DISTANCE
2 metres
or
22 lattes

Available to order now online • New designs coming soon • All profits support Birmingham Comedy Festival

Details via: **www.bhamcomfest.co.uk**

YES
BIRMINGHAM
YES